

STATINTL

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Klein Hints Fireworks Before Senators

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Maj. Gen. Julius Klein, retired officer in the Illinois National Guard, has sailed serenely back to the United States to face Senate Ethics Committee hearings next week which may not be so serene.

The sometimes urbane, sometimes explosive lobbyist for West German interests scheduled his trip to Europe at the exact time the Senate hearings were scheduled, and then returned home by boat, not plane. While abroad, he gave an interview to Charles Collingwood of CBS which indicates there will be fireworks when Klein takes the witness stand.

Asked whether he would give the Senate committee the names of other Senators, besides Tom Dodd, to whom he had contributed, Klein exploded:

"I wouldn't tell you now and I surely wouldn't tell the Senate committee. If they want to know who I contributed to, they should ask the Senators or send a round robin.

"I would go to jail in contempt of the Senate before embarrassing any United States Senator under the present climate in Washington who would be smeared, and if this question is asked of me I might as well tell you today I

will refuse to answer and I won't take the Fifth Amendment. I will say, 'I refuse to answer.'"

Strange Defender

Even while abroad, Klein was the cause of further controversy because of the support given him on April 21 of this year by Sen. Jacob Javits of New York, a definite candidate for Vice President on the Republican ticket.

Javits strangely went to bat for Klein in connection with the \$75 million arms contract the Pentagon was negotiating with Klein's client, Rheinmetall, which company had failed to pay restitution to Jewish victims of the slave labor camp it operated under Hitler.

This was not a matter to be kissed off cavalierly. It involved one of the great human tragedies of this century, the exploitation of Jews as raw material by the Nazi industrialists who actually built their factories alongside Jewish crematories.

Yet Rheinmetall was one of the few industries which refused to make even token payment of restitution. Klein, its agent in the United States, backed it up, while Javits on April 21 wrote him a letter of support and again last Sunday on "Face the Nation" defended Klein. Finally, on May 16, after an adamant position by the U.S. State

and Defense Departments and considerable publicity regarding Klein in this column, Rheinmetall paid \$600,000 to slave camp survivors.

Javits' brother Ben had become the attorney for Klein at the time of the April 21 letter. Following the unfavorable publicity, the Senator asked him to withdraw.

All this highlights one of the reasons why Klein was retained by West German interests—namely his religion. Klein has made much of the fact that he is a past commander of the Jewish War Veterans, and in one of the many letters to editors regarding our columns, Klein mentioned his religion no less than 11 times.

American Jews frown on members of their faith who trade on their religion. But German leaders, accused in the past of being anti-Semitic, considered it an asset to be represented in the United States by a Jew, especially one who could get a Senator close to the White House—Tom Dodd—to cooperate closely.

Authored Hitler Decrees

The irony is, however, that the man whom Klein instructed Dodd to see first in Germany in April, 1964, was Dr. Hans Globke, accused by Jewish leaders as the author of Hitler's first anti-Jewish decrees.

"When in Bonn," Klein

wrote Dodd just before he left for Europe in April, 1964, "see him (Globke) first to brief you. Dr. Globke is your devoted friend. He will ever be grateful to you for the courageous stand taken in your Senate speech of 1960. . . . To refresh your memory, attached is a marked copy of your speech.

"Globke . . . is already working on my problem," Klein wrote Dodd relative to keeping his West German clients. "Dr. Globke will support and guide you 100 per cent in my behalf. You can show him everything and discuss everything with him."

Yet it was Globke, according to two experts of the Anti-Defamation League, Arnold Forster and Ben Epstein, who made "this official contribution to German racial legislation: 'The Jew is completely alien to us in character and blood . . . The Nuremberg laws will form a permanent blockade against further penetration of Jewish blood into the German nation.'"

The book "Destruction of the European Jews," by Raul Hilberg gives further details regarding Globke's part in Hitler's anti-Jewish campaign.

"The revocation order (forcing Jews who had adopted German names to return to their old names) was followed by the decree of August 17, 1938, drafted by Ministerialrat Globke, name expert of the Interior Ministry . . ."

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